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Agenda item 120
Follow-up to the commemoration of the two-hundredth anniversary of the abolition of the transatlantic slave trade

Letter dated 17 July 2014 from the Permanent Representative of Jamaica to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I write on behalf of the Permanent Memorial Committee to provide an update on recent developments regarding the initiative to erect a permanent memorial to honour the victims of slavery and the transatlantic slave trade at United Nations Headquarters.

As you are no doubt aware, the initiative has received the unanimous support of Member States through annually adopted resolutions in the General Assembly, as well as by means of broad-based financial support to realize the completion of the project. The Secretariat has also been very supportive, including at the level of the Secretary-General.

Thanks to our collaboration with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the United Nations Office for Partnerships, the international competition to select a design for the memorial was run with utmost professionalism and transparency, utilizing the skills and inputs of industry leaders from various backgrounds and nationalities in choosing the winning design. Over the course of the past summer, the competition culminated in the selection of Rodney Leon's "Ark of Return" from among 310 entries representing 83 nationalities.

As you are well aware, the "Ark of Return" was unveiled on 23 September 2013 in a ceremony at which you participated, together with the President of the General Assembly and my own Prime Minister, in the presence of a number of other Heads of State and Government, ministers and other officials.

The Committee is now turning its attention in earnest to the construction and installation phases of the project. Working in collaboration with the Department of Management, we are aiming to realize the completion of the project in the shortest time possible. As you know, the ongoing capital master plan is currently focused on the General Assembly Hall and surroundings; it is our hope that the permanent memorial can be completed and installed in tandem with the completion of the work in that area.

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To that end, the Permanent Memorial Committee welcomes the renewed support of Member States in order to realize the completion of the memorial. The United Nations Trust Fund for Partnerships — Permanent Memorial now stands at $1,476,514. We urge Member States to give favourable consideration to making a new voluntary contribution to the Trust Fund to finance the completion of the project.

I have attached hereto a list of contributions to the Trust Fund as at 31 May 2014 (see annex), as provided by the United Nations Office for Partnerships (see A/69/93). Bearing in mind the noble and ongoing relevance of the purpose of the permanent memorial, supporting the completion of the project would serve as a show of commitment and demonstrate the united support of the global community to recognize and honour the victims of slavery and the transatlantic slave trade.

Contributions to the Trust Fund can be made by payment to:

The United Nations Trust Fund for Partnerships — Permanent Memorial
JP Morgan Chase
270 Park Avenue, New York, NY, 10017
Account: 485 001276
SWIFT: CHAS US 33

Alternatively, a payment by cheque can be made to:

The United Nations Trust Fund for Partnerships — Permanent Memorial
United Nations Office for Partnerships
Attention: Ann de la Roche
1 United Nations Plaza, DC1-1328, New York, New York, 10017

The Permanent Memorial Committee looks forward to the continued support of the United Nations community in this important initiative.

I should be grateful if you would circulate the present letter and its annex as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 120.

(*Signed*) E. Courtenay **Rattray**
Ambassador, Permanent Representative
Chair, Permanent Memorial Committee

Annex to the letter dated 17 July 2014 from the Permanent Representative of Jamaica to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

United Nations Trust Fund for Partnerships — Permanent Memorial: contributions received as at 31 May 2014

(United States dollars)

Donor	*Amount*
Afghanistan	1 000
Antigua and Barbuda	7 500
Argentina	10 000
Australia	150 000
Azerbaijan	25 000
Bahamas	7 500
Barbados	10 000
Belgium	6 267
Belize	2 000
Bhutan	1 000
Botswana	10 000
Brazil	20 000
Burkina Faso	533
Canada	19 342
Chile	5 000
China	20 000
Congo	9 831
Costa Rica	5 000
Denmark	10 000
Ecuador	5 000
Egypt	5 000
Finland	75 000
Georgia	5 000
Greece	1 278
Grenada	5 000
Guyana	5 000
Haiti	15 000
Honduras	2 000
Iceland	1 000
India	260 000
Indonesia	500
Ireland	10 000
Israel	20 000
Jamaica	7 500

Donor	*Amount*
Kuwait	20 000
Libya	20 000
Lithuania	2 000
Luxembourg	55 021
Malaysia	10 000
Malta	500
Mauritius	5 000
Monaco	6 564
Mozambique (Southern African Development Community Group of Ambassadors)	2 500
Namibia	2 000
Netherlands	34 588
New Zealand	40 000
Nicaragua	500
Oman	9 979
Pakistan	25 000
Portugal	32 782
Qatar	20 000
Saint Kitts and Nevis	1 000
Saint Lucia	600
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	5 000
Saudi Arabia	10 000
Slovenia	11 818
South Africa	101 051
Spain	44 615
Sri Lanka	500
Sudan	1 000
Suriname	10 000
Sweden	10 000
Syrian Arab Republic	1 000
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	500
Togo	175
Trinidad and Tobago	10 000
Turkey	23 500
United Arab Emirates	5 000
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	29 076
Subtotal, Member State donations	**1 288 519**
Ford Foundation	75 000
Private donors	33 612
Subtotal, public/private donations	**108 612**

Donor	*Amount*
Interest income	50 934
Other miscellaneous income[a]	28 449
Total	**1 476 514**

[a] Cancelled prior-period obligation and related programme support cost.